(क) जी नहीं। हिमाचल प्रदेश में तैनात वन अधिकारियों के विरुद्ध आज तक कोई शिकायत प्राप्त नहीं हुई है।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

(ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Destruction of Sandalwood at Tirupathur in Tamil Nadu

4494. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a huge quantity of sandalwood was recently destroyed at Tirupathur in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so the quantity and value thereof;

(c) whether any enquiry has been held into the causes of fire;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons detected for destruction?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) and (b) Around 1375 tons of sandalwood and 3300 tons of Sandalwood Sapwood worth about Rs. 68 crores have been destroyed in a major fire on 16.3.1997 in Tirupattur depot of Tamil Nadu.

(c) to (e) Information is being collected and would be placed on the Table of the House.

Request of Arunachal Pradesh on FCA

4495. PROF. RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Arunachal Pradesh has pleaded with the Government to give special status to the State in regard to the Forest (Conservation) Act (FCA);

(b) if so, the reasons advanced by the State Government; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) and (b) The Chief Minister, Arunachal Pradesh has submitted a memorandum to the Prime Minister requesting him to direct the Central Government to initiate action to vest the power of the Central Government under Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in the State. He has advanced the reasoning that the Central Government, under section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 has not only vested itself with sweeping powers ignoring the legitimate powers of the State Government in managing and protecting its own forests but also on the presumption that the State Governments are irresponsible in managing their forests.

(c) The Central Government do not propose to delegate any power to the State Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

त्रिपुरा में वन संरक्षण अधिनियम से प्रभावित विकास कार्य

4496. **श्री अनन्तराय देवशंकर दवे:** क्या **पर्यावरण और वन** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या वन (संरक्षण) अधिनियम, 1980 को लागू किए जाने के पश्चात् त्रिपुरा में जनजातीय तथा वन क्षेत्रों में सड़क-निर्माण एवं अन्य अनेक कार्यक्रम / योजनाएं ठप्प पड़ गई हैं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार का विचार त्रिपुरा की इन सरकारी योजनाओं के अंतर्गत कार्यों को शुरू करने के लिए रियायत प्रदान करने का है ताकि जनजातीय लोगों को सुविधाएं प्राप्त हो सकें;

(ग) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(घ) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं?

पर्यावरण और वन मंत्री (प्रो॰ सैफुद्दीन सोज़): (क) से (घ) जी, नहीं। वन (संरक्षण)